

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A drum maintenance unit, comprising:
a casing;
an oiling roller housed within the casing;
a metering blade housed within the casing and spaced from the oiling roller;
and
a shield disposed between the oiling roller and the metering blade, wherein the shield comprises a conductive material.
2. (Original) The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the shield reduces electrostatic field build up when the drum maintenance unit is installed in a media device.
3. (Original) The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the shield comprises a physical barrier between the oiling roller and metering blade.
4. (Original) The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the oiling roller has a longitudinal length and the shield extends at least the longitudinal length of the oiling roller.
5. (Original) The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the shield is in contact with the oiling roller.
6. (Original) The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the shield is electrically grounded.

7. (Original) The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the shield is electrically grounded to a media device when the drum maintenance unit is installed in the media device.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the shield partially encases the oiling roller.

10. (Original) The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the shield generally has an L shape.

11. (Currently Amended) The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein ~~a distal~~ an end of the shield is bent toward the oiling roller.

12. (Original) The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, further comprising a filter.

13. (Original) The drum maintenance unit according to claim 12, wherein the shield comprises a filter portion that retains the filter.

14. (Original) The drum maintenance unit according to claim 13, wherein the casing comprises a reservoir that houses the filter and a lower portion of the shield.

15. (Original) The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, further comprising a release agent retained on the oiling roller.

16. (Original) The drum maintenance unit according to claim 12, wherein tabs are provided on the shield to retain the filter.

17. (Original) The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein an upper portion of the shield is in contact with the oiling roller.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing ink transfer to an oiling roller in a drum maintenance unit, comprising:

providing a static shield between the oiling roller and a metering blade.

19. (Original) The method for reducing ink transfer according to claim 18, further comprising electrically grounding the shield.

20. (Original) The method for reducing ink transfer according to claim 18, further comprising contacting the oiling roller with the shield to reduce an electrostatic charge on the oiling roller.

21. (New) A drum maintenance unit, comprising:

a casing;

an oiling roller housed within the casing;

a metering blade housed within the casing and spaced from the oiling roller;

and

a static shield disposed between the oiling roller and the metering blade.